

Welcome from the PTA!

Highland Park Elementary School



August 2015

Hello Highland Park Families!

Hope everyone had a wonderful summer! We would like to welcome new and returning families to Highland Park Elementary School (HPS)! The HPS PTA invites you to join us in helping our children have a positive and rewarding school experience. We've prepared this PTA Welcome Packet to provide you with helpful information about our PTA.

The PTA affords the opportunity for sharing thoughts and ideas about programs and activities that benefit children and families. Our PTA provides information and resources through: family programs and events, monthly parent meetings, the HPS PTA section of the website, the Highland Park Families Facebook page along with the Husky Herald regular email communication that is distributed to all HPS families. We strive to keep open and frequent communication between our school and family communities and using multiple channels allows us to do so.

We hope to expand our PTA membership and ask that you consider joining. This year the PTA will sponsor various events but we can't make these events happen without the support of volunteers -- ***we can use all the help we can get!***

Some of the types of programs the Highland Park PTA has sponsored in the past include:

Back to School Picnic
Holiday Shop for Students
Book Fairs
Variety Shows

Adult Social Events
Family Movie Nights
Family Bingo Nights
Fun Run

Enclosed you will find our PTA calendar of events for the school year. We want to continue providing our family and student programs and welcome new suggestions for topics or programs of interest that you would like the PTA to consider sponsoring.

Our dues are only **\$10.00** per member. Through membership dues and fundraising efforts, the PTA is able to donate funds to purchase educational materials and equipment for the school as well as be involved in efforts to help the local community. Parents, Grandparents, or any adult 18 years of age or over may become a member of our PTA. You can join the Highland Park PTA by filling out the enclosed membership form. Remember to include your membership dues, and return it to school addressed to the HPS PTA. If you would like further information, feel free to contact any one of the PTA Board members listed below. We look forward to a great school year!

2015/2016 PTA BOARD MEMBERS

Co-Presidents – Grace DeAngelis	gdeangelis@mpspride.org
Jen Stokes	Jen.stokes@hotmail.com

Vice-President – Caroline Beitman	cbeitman@meridenct.gov
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Secretary – Jen Smyth	b59jsmyt@mpspride.org
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Treasurer – Laura Golas	lkgolas@gmail.com
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FACEBOOK: Search “Highland Park Families” group page and ask to be added

PTA WEBSITE ADDRESS: <http://publicschools.manchesterct.gov/page.cfm?p=610>

PTA Monthly Meeting Dates

Please mark your calendar with our monthly PTA meetings. Attending our meetings is a great way to stay informed and to connect with other HPS parents and staff. We often have special guest speakers about timely topics as well. All of our meetings commence at 6:30pm and take place in our Library/Media Center.

Wednesday, September 9th – 6:30pm

Tuesday, October 6th – 6:30pm

Tuesday, November 10th – 6:30pm

Thursday, December 10th – 6:30pm

Wednesday, January 6th – 6:30pm

Thursday, February 4th – 6:30pm

Wednesday, March 2nd – 6:30pm

Tuesday, April 5th – 6:30pm

Wednesday, May 4th – 6:30pm

Thursday, June 2nd – 6:30pm (Ice Cream Social)

2015/2016 PTA Board Members Contact Information

Co-Presidents	Grace DeAngelis	gdeangelis@mpspride.org
	Jen Stokes	jen.stokes@hotmail.com
Vice-President	Caroline Beitman	cbeitman@meridenct.gov
Secretary	Jen Smyth	b59jsmyt@mpspride.org
Treasurer	Laura Golas	lkgolas@gmail.com

facebook

Don't forget to join our closed group on FaceBook! Search for the "Highland Park Families" group page and ask to be added!



HPS PTA Calendar of Events 2015-2016

August

8/27 First Day of School

September

9/7 NO School – Labor Day

9/9 PTA meeting WED @6:30

9/16 Early Release (1:17pm)

9/17 Back to School Picnic (9/18 RAINDATE)

October

10/1 Curriculum Night (parents only)

10/6 PTA meeting TUES @6:30

10/12 No School-Columbus Day

10/15 Movie Night

10/21 Early Release (1:17pm)

10/30 Costume Book Bingo

November

11/3 No School - Election Day

11/7 Fun Run

11/10 PTA meeting TUES @6:30

11/11 No School-Veteran's Day

11/18 Barnes & Noble Book Fair

11/25 Early Release (1:17pm)

11/26-27 No School-Thanksgiving

December

12/1-3 Conferences-Early Dismissal (1:17pm)

12/3 Movie Night with Pizza

12/9 Early Release (1:17pm)

12/10 PTA meeting THURS @6:30

12/17&18 Holiday Shop

12/24-1/1 Vacation Period

January

1/6 PTA meeting WED @ 6:30

1/18& 1/19 No School

1/29 Family Bowling Night-Spare Time Vernon

February

2/3 Early Release (1:17pm)

2/4 PTA meeting THURS @ 6:30

2/15-16 No School-President's Weekend

2/17 Variety Show Dress Rehearsal

2/18 Variety Show (K-5)

2/19 Variety Show SNOW Date

2/25 Movie Night

March

3/2 PTA meeting WED @6:30

3/15-17 Parent-Teacher Conferences

3/23 Early Release (1:17pm)

3/24 Me & My Gal Game Night

3/25 No School-Good Friday

3/30 Math Night

April

4/5 PTA Meeting TUES @6:30

4/11-15 Spring Vacation

4/21 Me & My Guy Dance

4/28 Wine Tasting Adult Social

May

5/4 PTA meeting WED @6:30

5/3 Teacher Appreciation Breakfast (TUES)

5/5 Teacher Appreciation Lunch (THURS)

5/18 Early Dismissal

5/25 Husky Highlights Night

5/30 No School –Memorial Day

June

6/2 Summer Send-Off/Ice Cream Social

6/9 Last Day of School/Early Dismissal (1:17pm)

**List is subject to change - additions or deletions may occur throughout the year.*



HPS PTA Volunteer Opportunities

We need your help!



This year the PTA plans to sponsor various events and conduct several fundraisers but we can't make these events happen without volunteers! Your involvement can make a dramatic difference for our children, their teachers and the staff at Highland Park School. We have a variety of opportunities that will fit your schedule and interests.

Please note that because we rely on volunteers to help with all of the following opportunities, certain events will not be held if we don't receive enough volunteer support.

Below are some of the volunteer opportunities available. Kindly indicate if you would be willing to help with any of the events/programs below by checking the box(es) next to the ones of interest to you and return this form to the PTA by September 15, 2015.

Thank you in advance for volunteering your time!
Highland Park School PTA

Volunteer Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Child's Name(s) _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Event/Type of Position	Volunteer	Event/Type of Position	Volunteer
Volunteer Coordinator		Mum Sale	
PTA Membership Coordinator		Bowling Night	
Box Tops		Holiday Shop	
Book Fair(s)		Butterbraids	
Grocery/Store Reward Program		Yankee Candles	
Movie Nights		Talent Show	
Yearbook		Spiritwear	
Original Artworks		Me & My Guy Dance	
Meadow Farms		Me & My Gal Game Night	
Fine Arts Program		Lyman Orchard Pies	
Fun Run Event		Dine Out Nights	
Teacher Appreciation		Running Club	

OTHER: please let us know if you want to help in any of the following ways:

On-Call Volunteer: _____

Phone calls to schedule volunteers: _____

Carpentry needs: _____

Donations for auction or raffles: _____

Gardening Experience: _____

Have contacts at local restaurants: _____

Is there any other way you'd like to help? Additional suggestions or comments? Please let us know!

Join the Highland Park PTA

**PTA Membership is \$10 per person. You can pay with cash or by check.
Checks should be made payable to: Highland Park PTA.**

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Child's Name(s) _____ Grade(s) _____ Teacher(s) _____

Please return this form to the office with payment in an envelope addressed to: HPS PTA

Why Join the PTA?

What is PTA? Why join PTA? The number one reason to join the **Parent Teacher Association** is to benefit your child. In doing so, you also help our school. But there are many more PTA advantages:

- **Get Connected.** There's no better way to know what's happening in your school.
- **Discover Great Resources.** The PTA offers a variety of programs designed for parents as well as students.
- **Tap into a Network.** PTA functions are opportunities to meet other parents and teachers, building rapport and discussing issues that are on your mind. Ideas, concerns, and experiences are shared.
- **Speak Up.** PTA can be a way for you to more effectively suggest change at your child's school.
- **Witness Improvement.** By getting involved at your child's school you'll be part of the solution, helping make positive changes. Local PTAs play an important role in fundraising to provide building improvements, curriculum-based programs, and social events.
- **Be a Role Model.** By becoming a PTA member, you'll be demonstrating to your child the importance you place on education.
- **Enjoy Substantial Benefits.** Individuals and local units can take advantage of a host of benefits from PTA membership including various discounts and offers.

**Adapted from the National PTA Website*

